

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 019870  
ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-02 ISO-00 ONY-00 /011 R

4RAFTED BY AF/C:WLSWING/HFO  
APPROVED BY AF/C:LDJUNIOR  
DESIRED DISTRIBUTION  
AF ONLY

-----006804 251627Z /45

O 251619Z JAN 78  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 019870

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, CG

SUBJECT: STATUS OF M-16 AMMO SHIPMENT

1. SEPARATE MESSAGE BEING SENT TO EMBASSY IN DOD/ZAMISH CHANNEL TO INFORM THAT ALL DELIVERIES TO ZAIRE OF M-16 AMMO, INCLUDING CLIPS, WILL BE COMPLETED BY NOT LATER THAN FEBRUARY 8 AND POSSIBLY BEFORE. AMMO BEING TRANSPORTED FROM MISSOURI TO ZAIRE IN FOUR DC-8'S AND ONE C-141. DOD MESSAGE WILL UPDATE EARLIER ONE TO ZAMISH OF JANUARY 18 AND PROVIDE GREATER DETAIL ON SHIPMENTS.

2. DOD STATES REASONS FOR DELAY WERE TIME REQUIRED TO AMEND AND SIGN CHANGEOVER FROM ORIGINAL REQUEST FOR SURFACE SHIPMENT TO AIR SHIPMENT, AND SINCE THEN OBTENTION OF NECESSARY OVERFLIGHT CLEARANCES. ACCORDING TO DOD THE BASIC REQUEST SIGNED AT ZAIRE EMBASSY NOVEMBER 8 PROVIDED FOR SURFACE LIFT. AMENDMENTS INCORPORATING ZAMISH REQUEST OF OCTOBER 28 FOR AIRLIFT NOT SIGNED UNTIL DECEMBER 22.

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3. DOD POINTS OUT THAT ONCE AMENDMENT SIGNED, HOWEVER, SHIPMENT HAS MOVED VERY FAST AS THREE MONTHS IS CUSTOMARY

LAPSE INVOLVED FOR DELIVERY OF AN ITEM SUCH AS M-16 AMMO COMING OUT OF STOCK. OBVIOUSLY DELIVERY TIME BY SURFACE CONSIDERABLY LONGER.

4. BELIEVE YOU WILL WISH TO INFORM GENERAL BABIA OR  
OTHER APPROPRIATE ZAIRIAN AUTHORITIES OF FOREGOING TO  
CLEAR UP ANY QUESTIONS THAT MAY HAVE ARISEN OUT OF  
WHAT HAS LIKELY APPEARED TO BE INORDINATE DELAY. AF/C  
WILL ALSO BE BRIEFING ZAIRE AMBASSADOR KASANGO  
ON JANUARY 25 IN CONTEXT OF UNRELATED AND EARLIER  
ARRANGED COURTESY CALL ON HIM. VANCE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AMMUNITION  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 25 jan 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**TAGS:** MASS, CG  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014